

Message Text

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11

ACTION ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 CU-04 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11

INR-10 LAB-06 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 AID-20 DODE-00

PM-09 H-02 L-03 NSC-10 PA-03 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

OMB-01 TRSE-00 RSR-01 /153 W
----- 108772

R 041500 Z APR 73

FM AMCONSUL PARAMARIBO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1288

INFO AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARAMARIBO 152

E.;9. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, NS

SUBJECT: STRIKE SITUATION

REF: PARAMARIBO 150

SUMMARY: ABSENCE OF SIGNIFICANT VIOLENCE OR MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS WHICH HAS CHARACTERIZED SITUATION FOR PAST MONTH WILL PROBABLY CONTINUE FOR SEVERAL WEEKS LONGER. END SUMMARY.

1. SEEMS LIKELY THAT SITUATION HERE WILL CONTINUE TO STUMBLE ALONG WITHOUT VIOLENCE OR MAJOR CHANGES FOR NEXT FEW WEEKS, AS IT HAS SINCE END FEBRUARY. APATHY HAS LARGELY REPLACED TENSION, EVEN APPARENTLY AMONG PARENTS WHOSE CHILDREN ARE NOW IN 9 TH SCHOOLLESS WEEK. GOVERNMENT STRATEGY OF APPLYING CONSTANT PRESSURE ON TIRING STRIKING TEACHERS BY GRADUALLY ATTEMPTING TO REOPEN INCREASING NUMBER OF SCHOOLS MAY YIELD RESULTS AND, PERHAPS JUST AS IMPORTANT, IS NOT LIKELY TO CAUSE VIOLENCE. TIGHT POLICE MEASURES STILL IN FORCE WILL FURTHER ASSURE THIS.

2. POSSIBILITY OF GOVERNMENT RESIGNATION AND EARLY ELECTIONS SEEMS TO HAVE VANISHED AND THIS WAS FURTHER CONFIRMED IN A CONVERSATION THIS MORNING WITH PRIME MINISTER SEDNEY. POLITICAL
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AND LEGISLATIVE WORK IS NOW PROCEEDING ON THE BASIS OF OCTOBER ELECTIONS.

3. IN VIEW OF FOREGOING, WE INTEND TO REDUCE FREQUENCY OF REPORTING ON STRIKE SITUATION AND WILL REPORT ONLY DEVELOPMENTS OF REAL SIGNIFICANCE OR, IN ABSENCE SUCH DEVELOPMENTS, PERIODICALLY.
JOHNSTON

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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